

POSSIBLE CHANGES TO REGULATIONS FOR LICENSE FREE FISHING AREAS

The department is considering adding three new license free fishing areas. The Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission discussed the areas at their meeting in July and supported the suggestions.

There are areas in Maryland that have been identified and established as license free fishing areas. An individual fishing in a license free fishing area is required to observe all fishing laws and regulations. A free angler registration is required for anglers fishing without a license in designated tidal license free fishing areas. An individual is exempt from all other license fees and requirements. The objective of license free fishing areas is to increase new participation in Maryland's recreational fishery and to provide safe and high quality fishing opportunities for families and subsistence anglers.

During the winter and spring of 2017, three local municipalities submitted requests asking the department to consider the addition of new license free fishing areas. The submissions were reviewed for potential fishing success, safety considerations (traffic, parking and security), accessibility, cleanliness, amenities and geographically distribution in relation to existing sites.

On July 18, 2017, the areas were presented to the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission. The commissioners recommended the department approve the requests and add the following areas:

- Cecil County — Ice House Park, Susquehanna River, Perryville (downstream/south of the boat ramp and the Route 40 Bridge, 411 Roundhouse Drive)
- Somerset County — Crisfield City Dock (end of West Main Street, City Dock/Depot area, 319 West Main St.)
- Caroline County — Greensboro Waterfront Park (Choptank River, Route 314, 218 E Sunset Ave.)

Additional Information: Current [List of License Free Fishing Areas](#)